

# EXHIBIT A

Hon. Robert Holmes Bell  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
110 Michigan Street, N.W. Room 602  
Grand Rapids, Mi 49503-2313

Your Honor,

My name is Veronica Lopez, i am the eldest daughter of Pablo Fierro. I would like to take the time to say a few words about my father.

Let me start by saying that my father is EVERYTHING to me. He is the youngest of 5, and the one my grandparents looked to for the most help. At a young age he learned that hard work was a must and that he had to leave behind his dream of being a teacher in order to help sustain his family. Even though my dad has less than a sixth grade education he has tried his hand at many occupations.

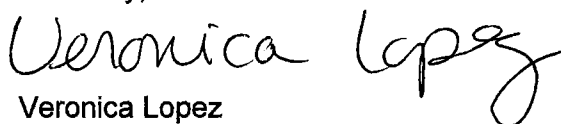
Fast forward to when we were growing up, my father worked 2 full time factory jobs for 9 consecutive years to put us through catholic school and then when i graduated i went off to Aquinas College where he also helped pay for whatever scholarships did not. Always instilling in us that education and hard work always pay off. It took many sacrifices on all of our parts as we were often separated from him because he was always at work.

I completely understand that he made a mistake, but i am asking asking for leniency and that you please take into consideration his high work ethic. Although he does have a severe spinal injury, that should not be taken lightly , all he knows how to do is work and take care of his loved ones.

There is not one thing that can or could happen to us that my dad would not be there to take care. He is the head of our family, our rock. He is a man of great patience, high morals and great integrity. I am and forever will be honored to be able to call him my father. And now that he needs us , i'm glad to see that we can all come together for him.

Thank you for your time and if you have any further questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veronica Lopez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Veronica" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and the last name "Lopez" is written in a similar but slightly more compact script. The signature is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Veronica Lopez  
(231)329-3177  
vlopez855@gmail.com

Hon. Robert Holmes Bell  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
110 Michigan Street, N.W. Room 602  
Grand Rapids, Mi 49503-2313

Your Honor

I am writing this letter to you regarding the pending sentencing of my father Pablo Fierro. My name is Maria (Connie) Briceno and I am Pablo's middle daughter. There is so much I want to say about my father, the man who will humbly stand before you, but I don't know where to begin.

At a very young age I remember not seeing my father around very often. It wasn't because he didn't want to be but because he worked two full time factory jobs. For almost ten years he worked 16 hours a day everyday including Saturdays. You see, my father did this for us. He didn't want his family to struggle like he did while growing up. He wanted us to go to a private catholic school so that we could get a good education, something he values because his father pulled him out of school at a young age so he could work the fields to help support his siblings. As a result my father has always worked very hard starting at a young age. He has a high work ethic, that's all he's ever done.

On a typical day our father would be gone by the time we woke up for school. My mother would see us off to school before she would leave and go to work as well. Our father would always be there to pick us up from school and he would bring us home and quickly eat with us before he rushed off to his next job. Family has always been important to my parents and our mother would make it a point we see our dad as much as we could. She would always cook something so that we could go take him lunch on his lunch break. He'd sit in the car to eat and ask us (his 3 daughters) about our day. Time was limited as he only had a 20 minute break. By the time he came home from work we'd be in bed already asleep & that would be our normal routine. Sunday's will always be one of my fondest memories. He would always wake us up with music and make breakfast. We'd go to church every Sunday & then we would walk and get some ice-cream. Sunday for us was always "family day".

Our father injured himself at work and has a spinal injury. I remember the doctors wanted to operate on him but didn't give him the best chance of a full recovery. My father didn't want to end up in a wheelchair and declined surgery. He decided instead to try and manage his pain. He was off work a very long time. He was in and out of doctors offices and would go to the pain clinic for shots. During this time our family struggled. Our mother continued to work very hard. She would often come home from work and make Mexican food to sell for a little extra money but it wasn't enough. I truly believe this is why my father started to work again. He learned how to manage his pain and pushed through every day. Working is all my father has known to do all his life.

One of his dreams was always to open up a Mexican restaurant of his own. As a family we all encouraged him to give it a try and go for it. He soon became successful and well known throughout the community. I understand he went about it the wrong way & I assure you we as a family know the seriousness of the crime he committed. I can also assure you he knows and understands what he did was wrong and accepts full responsibility. Our father has always given back to the community in many ways. He's helped countless people and is very loved by all his customers. He's donated bibles to a bible class that couldn't afford any. He's given money to various organizations. He's helped the church we attended with their annual "fiesta" every summer. I could go on and on. He's the type of person that will not hesitate to help someone in need. Now my mother needs him. She is ill and her health is not the best. All this stress on her has only made her health decline.

My father has lost everything he has spent a lifetime working for. He has nothing left except us, his family. Although I am fully aware of what my father did and I know he was wrong I will never be embarrassed to call him my dad. I am very proud to be his daughter, that will never change. I ask that you please consider leniency when sentencing him. Please allow our family to start the healing process and give my father the chance to rebuild his life and reputation. Please take into consideration all the good things he has done. I ask you give him a second chance to make things right and repay what he owes. Thank you for your time reading my letter.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Briceno". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Maria" and last name "Briceno" clearly distinguishable.

Maria Briceno  
(231)343-2150  
1553 Haverhill Rd  
Muskegon, Mi 49441

Hon. Robert Holmes Bell  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
110 Michigan Street, N.W., Room 603  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2313

Dear Honorable Judge Holmes Bell,

I hope you accept this letter regarding leniency in the sentence of Pablo R. Fierro. My name is Elizabeth Melgarejo, I am Pablo's youngest daughter. I understand the severity of the situation, and I know that my father truly regrets his decisions that have led him in the current situation.

My father that I know has always been a hard working man. When I was growing up I would always ask my mother "when I was going to see my daddy", because back then I didn't understand what work was. It wasn't until I was a little older that I understood that my father worked two full time factory jobs for 9 years just so he could give his family a better life, so he could send my two older sisters and myself to a catholic school from elementary until high school. My father only wanted the best for our family and to him working hard to provide for us was his way to give us the best.

When my father was injured at work that caused his back injury I believe I was 12 years old. Not old enough to totally comprehend what had happened but I was old enough to understand that my father had a severe injury. I remember seeing my father crying in pain, I remember waking up in the middle of the night to my father walking around the house because he couldn't stand the pain and I also remember holding my dad's hand when his legs would go numb due to his injury. Those are things that I will never forget. But my father is and has always been a fighter, he is not the type of person that would just lay there doing nothing because of his pain.

The father that I know and love so dearly made a mistake, I know that he is willing to pay back. This situation has really hurt our family. My father is the one that would keep our family intact. Making sure that we were all together celebrating holidays. My father means that world to me. He is also the type of person that would take his shirt off and give it to someone in need. He was really involved in the community, he would always go to church every Sunday because his catholic faith has always been strong and important to him. He always made sure to teach us the value of work and faith. My father is my hero and role model and our family needs him. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Melgarejo  
1461 Division St.  
Muskegon, MI 49441  
(231) 329-5507